

TWENTIETH ANNUAL REPORT  
OF  
THE MANAGERS  
OF  
THE SOCIETY FOR THE REFORMATION  
OF  
JUVENILE DELINQUENTS,  
TO  
THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE,  
AND  
THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY  
OF  
NEW-YORK.

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NEW-YORK:  
EGBERT, HOVEY & KING, PRINTERS, 374 PEARL-STREET,  
(SUCCESSORS TO M. DAY'S PRESS.)

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1845.

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GALEN CARTER, M. D.

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## Matron.

PHEBE WOOD.

SARAH H. WOOD, First Assistant.

SARAH DOTY, Second Assistant.



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ROBERT D. WEEKS,  
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ROBERT KELLY,  
CHARLES M. LEUPP.

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ANN COIT,  
ALMY CORNELL,  
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## TWENTIETH ANNUAL REPORT.

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TO THE HONORABLE THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE,  
AND THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK:—

THE Managers of the Society for the Reformation  
of Juvenile Delinquents, in obedience to the Act of the  
Legislature, passed March 29, 1824, Respectfully

### REPORT:

That the number of children in the House of Refuge on the 1st day of January, 1844, was - - -	321
There have been received during the year, -	262
Making a total for the year 1844, of - - -	583
The number remaining in the House on the 1st day of January, 1845, was - - - - -	307
<hr/>	
Leaving the number disposed of during the year, -	276

For a detail of the above, we refer to the Report of  
the Superintendent in the Appendix.

The discipline and regulations of the various depart-  
ments of the Refuge, remain the same as during the  
past year. Under the successful management of the  
former Superintendent, DAVID TERRY Junr., the action  
of the Institution has exerted a salutary influence upon

the moral training of the children, and on their mental and physical culture.

The present Superintendent, **SAMUEL S. WOOD**, has proved himself qualified in every respect for the discharge of the various and complicated duties of his station. The experience acquired by him in the position he formerly occupied as Assistant Superintendent, justified the Managers in the belief that under his superintendence, the Institution would lose none of its efficiency in the promotion of its general objects. In every respect the opinion of the Managers has been fully sustained by the zeal and ability of Mr. Wood, whose faithful and unremitting exertions in carrying out the designs of the Institution, in the moral improvement of the children under his care, entitle him to the highest praise.

The course pursued by the Board in promoting the objects for which the Refuge was established, has been shown in the various reports presented from year to year to the Legislature.

The same general plan of action has been adhered to by the present Board, with such modifications and improvements as have been suggested by experience.

The primary object of the discipline of the Institution, is to lead the minds of the children under its care from their former habits of thought, and to interest them with other objects and purposes of a more ennobling and exalted character. With this view, an entire forgiveness of the past is fully and freely accorded to them, and the important truth impressed upon their minds, that the future happiness and welfare of their lives will



depend entirely upon their own good conduct. They therefore enter upon their new course with the confidence that they are not to be regarded as culprits, cut off from the kindness of those around them, but, as moral beings, having claims upon the sympathies of society, and possessing an interest in its welfare.

This first appeal to the moral feelings of the delinquent, does not fail in most cases, to inspire him with that degree of self-respect so essential to his future reformation, and, unless utterly and hopelessly depraved, the spirit of kindness with which he is received, awakens emotions in his breast of the deepest gratitude. This impression made upon his mind on his entrance into the Refuge, gives him confidence in himself; while the solicitude of his care-takers, in all that concerns his moral and physical improvement, exhibited to him at all times in a liberal and generous spirit, encourages him in the formation of good resolutions as to his future course of life.

The greatest number of these unfortunate children have lived entirely without moral restraint, in the midst of associations of the most debasing character, neglected by parents, and permitted to grow up in the practice of every species of vice, to the great injury of society. It would therefore appear almost a hopeless task, to wean them from the degrading propensities which have taken such deep root in their natures: but the tender and susceptible heart of a child is accessible to the persuasions of kindness, and we soon learn that he is not entirely destitute of those hopeful and generous

aspirations which God has implanted in the breasts of all his creatures.

Very soon after entering upon the discipline of the Refuge, they become reconciled to the restraints which are necessarily thrown around them, and perform without reluctance the various duties of their new condition of life. The School and the Chapel afford to their minds an agreeable and profitable change from the labors of the workshop, and their religious and intellectual cultivation opens to them new sources of enjoyment, such as they have never before experienced. By this routine of discipline and instruction, a healthy tone is given to their moral and physical characters, which can never be entirely destroyed, and which must be followed with good effects upon their future lives.

The religious instruction of the Sabbath School is salutary in its influence upon them. They are there taught their accountability to their Creator, and their duty towards their fellow man. These influences, permanent we trust, upon the hearts of the greater portion of the children who leave the Refuge, preserve and secure to society a large number of useful citizens, who might otherwise have become dangerous to its security.

The School, under the superintendence of Mr. McKENNEE, is conducted with good order and success. The children are taught the usual branches of a plain education, viz: Reading, Writing, Arithmetic and Geography; and it is most gratifying to be able to state that although a large number enter the Refuge unacquainted even with their letters, all of them leave its walls with sufficient instruction for the ordinary purposes of life.

We refer to the Report of the Teacher in the Appendix, for such information as may be desired on this point. It is gratifying to the Board to report, that a taste for reading is increasing among the children, and desirous of encouraging it as far as possible, they have, during the past year added one hundred and eighty-one volumes to the Library of the Institution.

While every means are adopted to strengthen and confirm them in good habits of industry, sufficient time is allowed to them daily, for such recreation as is deemed necessary to promote their health. When the weather is favorable, they have the use of certain portions of the grounds attached to the Refuge for their pastime. This system of indulgence, while it secures their health, tends, at the same time, to check any feeling of discontent or insubordination which may arise in their minds, and encourages them in the cheerful performance of their various duties.

The children are occupied *eight* hours each day in the Mechanical Department of the Refuge. During the course of the past year it became necessary to enlarge the accommodations of this department, and an additional number of workshops have been erected at an expense of \$3,680. This expenditure became indispensable from the fact, that too great a number of children were necessarily confined in narrow limits, to the great injury of their health, and interfering more or less with the discipline proper for their regulation. By these enlarged conveniences the Superintendent has been enabled to divide the children in the various work-



shops, thereby avoiding the evils of imperfect ventilation, resulting from closely crowded rooms.

The subject of improving the ventilation, not only of the workshops, but also of the dormitories, has attracted the attention of the Managers, and they have made some experiments, which if found to answer the purpose, will be more extensively adopted. The necessity of some action on the subject cannot be overlooked, as it will tend to secure the health of the inmates, and thereby prove in the end an economical expenditure of money.

The introduction of the Croton water throughout the establishment, has fully realized the expectations of the Board of Managers. Its efficiency as a security against fire, cannot be over-estimated. As stated in our last report, the annual saving of expenditure for insurance would, in a very few years, create a sinking fund for the redemption of the expenses incurred by its introduction. Its importance, however, is more clearly seen in its moral and physical effects upon the children.

The habit of personal neatness and cleanliness, is of great importance to the child, from its intimate connection with the moral elevation of his character, and the beneficial impression made on his mind by the healthy and vigorous tone of body which it induces. The arrangements for its proper and regular use, are such as to answer every useful purpose. A large bath has been erected, capable of containing nearly five thousand gallons of water, and here the children enjoy in proper seasons the healthful and agreeable recreation of bathing.

The Female Department continues to be superintended

by the Matron, PHEBE WOOD, to the satisfaction of the Board. A Committee of ladies visits the Refuge weekly, and exercise a general supervision over this department of the Institution. To their kind advice, the Board of Managers are indebted for many valuable suggestions. The inmates of the Female House perform all the domestic work of the establishment. The washing and mending of the clothing of the children, are done by them under the supervision of the Matron, by whose example and advice the girls are instructed in all household duties, and in their regular and systematic discharge. They attend school daily for instruction in the various branches of a plain education, and give gratifying evidence of the interest they take in this, one of their most important privileges.

The Board of Managers beg leave once more to refer to a subject which deeply concerns the discipline of the Society, and the moral improvement of the children. From a misconception of the nature and purposes of the Institution, some of the courts of our state order children to the Refuge, who are past the age at which delinquents are entitled by law, to be received by the Society. It frequently happens, that boys and girls are convicted and sent to the Refuge, whose characters and habits by long practice in vice, are so confirmed, as to be beyond the reach of reformation, and of course, necessarily present very serious contaminating examples to the other children. The object of the Institution is not to *punish*, but, to *reform* the delinquent. This becomes almost impossible after a certain age, and the evil most to be deprecated by the course too



frequently pursued by the Courts, arises from the corrupting influences which are thrown around the younger, and less deeply depraved portion of the children, by those who are thus injudiciously and unwisely ordered to the Refuge.

A mere notice of the evil is all that is deemed necessary to command the attention of the Legislature, and the Courts of law to the subject.

The Treasurer's Annual Report is herewith annexed. The balance due the Treasurer on 1st of January, 1844, was

- - - - -	\$ 1,109 55
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The Receipts to 1st January, 1845

amounted to - - - - -	22,797 99
And the disbursements to - - -	22,484 00

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Leaving a balance due the Treasurer of

the Society, of - - - - -	\$796 34
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The health of the children during the past year, has been good, and but *four* deaths have occurred. The Annual Report of Dr. G. CARTER, the Physician of the Refuge, will be found in the Appendix.

During the past year the Society has lost, by death, three of its most valuable and efficient friends, WILLIAM L. STONE, SAMUEL STEVENS, and within a few weeks past, by a most sudden and afflicting dispensation of Divine Providence, JOHN R. WILLIS. These gentlemen had been long connected with the Institution, and had by their exertions and valuable services, largely promoted the objects for which it was established.

Our lamented associate, John R. Willis, acted with us down to the close of his valuable life. He took a

benevolent and active interest in every thing calculated to promote the comfort and happiness of the unfortunate children of the Refuge, and with unsurpassed fidelity devoted his time and exertions in the cause of public and private charity. By his experience and wise counsels, he gave energy and efficiency to the action of this Board.

In this sudden and afflicting bereavement, we mourn the loss of a most useful citizen, whose name will long be remembered by those who were the witnesses of his benevolent and disinterested exertions in promoting the good of society.

STEPHEN ALLEN, *President.*

JOHN H. GOURLIE, *Secretary.*



## APPENDIX.

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### PHYSICIAN'S REPORT.

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TO THE HONORABLE STEPHEN ALLEN, PRESIDENT OF THE  
BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE  
REFORMATION OF JUVENILE  
DELINQUENTS.

There has been nothing peculiar in the character of the diseases among the children in the Refuge during the past year worthy of record. They have been such only as are common to young subjects under ordinary circumstances, though somewhat modified by the regular mode of living to which they are subjected by the discipline of the House, and have consequently been more easily cured and less fatal.

Were it not that many of the children come into the Refuge in a sickly and diseased condition, we should have much less use for our hospitals, for we very seldom have anything like influenzas or epidemics among them—none such having occurred since my last report.

Four deaths have occurred among the children during the year—two from *consumption*, one from *scarlatina*, and one from *typhus fever*. The two former were colored boys; one died on the 2d of May; he had been confined to the hospital some ten months; the other, on the 13th of June. He came into the Refuge sick, and after lingering about a month died.

Early in September, the *scarlatina* made its appearance among the children, and excited some anxiety lest it should become epidemic among them. Fortunately, however, only four boys were attacked with the disease, although many of them were exposed to its infection.

Two of the cases were of a very malignant character. One of the two boys recovered, the other, after ten days severe suffering, died as above stated, on the 2d of October. The other two cases were mild, and required very little treatment.

During the month of October, a few cases of *typhus fever* made their appearance, some of which were of a bad character. One boy died on the 4th of December, after a severe illness of two weeks. The other cases were mild and soon yielded to proper treatment. These two last deaths were from among the large boys, being between the ages of seventeen and twenty years, both of feeble constitution.

That troublesome disease, *scrofula*, which has for some years past given us great trouble and anxiety, has become much less frequent in its occurrence, more mild in its form, and more easily controlled by medical treatment. The same observations will equally apply to the *sore eyes* which occur mostly among scrofulous children; they, too, have been less in number and more easily cured than formerly. But a few cases of these two last mentioned diseases have appeared among the children during the year, in proportion, not half so many as the year before; while those remaining in the hospital and under treatment at the close of the last year, have all recovered so as to be able to perform their tasks to the satisfaction of their employers.

It is with great pleasure that I have the satisfaction of informing you, that the general health of the Institution is good—better than for some years past—that there are now no patients confined to the hospital, and but few under treatment.

It is here proper that I should revert to some of the causes which have operated so favorably on the general health of the inmates of the Refuge during the past year, and first, I will



mention the great improvements which have been made in the workshops. They are now sufficiently capacious for all practical purposes, so that it is not necessary to put more boys into one shop than is for their general good, and what is by far of more importance, *they are all well ventilated*. The system of ventilation now being made in the dormitories, will, when completed, add much more to the health and comfort of the children. More attention has also been paid to the diet than heretofore, substituting more solid food, as occasion required, for that which was deemed less nutritious, to the manifest improvement of the health of all the *scrofulous and sore eyed* children. In this work of reform, the constant use of the Croton water, in which the children bathe twice a week, as a means of preserving health, must not be forgotten. It, too, has done its full share in bringing about the favorable influences, which, under the guidance of a kind Providence, have added so much to the health and comfort of the inmates of the Institution over which you preside.

GALEN CARTER, M. D.,

467 Broome-street, Dec. 31, 1844.

## TEACHER'S REPORT OF MALE SCHOOL.

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TO THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE  
REFORMATION OF JUVENILE DELINQUENTS :

*Gentlemen :*

Permit me, in presenting for the third time, an account of the condition of my charge, and the labors of the past year, to express my grateful sense of the divine favor, which has continued to rest upon this part of your interesting enterprise. Under your patronage, the school has been increasing in interest, and we trust, has not materially failed in substantial utility.

The number now in attendance is 241.

Of whom that are able to read with ease, there are	162	
that read in easy lessons,	-	49
that are learning to spell easy words.	30	
	241	

Cyphering in the simple rules of arithmetic,	-	163
“ beyond the fundamental rules,	-	48

Write on paper,	-	90
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A class has been formed in “Hazen’s Definer” during the year, it now contains	-	136 boys.
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Two classes have also been organized in Geography :

One in “Mitchell’s School Geography” contains	26 boys.
One in “ Primary “ “	95 “

The improvement of these classes since their organization has been quite satisfactory.

The number of new subjects received into the school during the past year :

That did not know the English alphabet,	12
could spell easy words, - -	53
could read easy lessons, - -	12
could read more fluently, - -	89
	<hr/> 166

That commenced with combination of figures and

	addition, - -	132
"	" subtraction, - -	13
"	" multiplication, - -	3
"	" division, - -	7
"	" reduction, - -	11
		<hr/> 166

17 when they entered were classed "on paper."

The number discharged from the House during the past year who had attended school four weeks :

That could read fluently, there were	-	148
" " " easy lessons, - -	-	16
" were spelling easy words, - -	-	5
		<hr/> 169

That were beyond the simple rules of arithmetic,

There were	-	-	-	-	81
"	"	in division, -	-	-	43
"	"	in multiplication, -	-	-	11
"	"	in subtraction, -	-	-	18
"	"	in addition, -	-	-	16
					<hr/> 169

102 wrote on paper ; 67 wrote on slates.

The conduct of the school has been such, as to enable me almost entirely to dispense with corporal punishment ; the effect of which has been an evident elevation of principle, increased love of approbation, and greater sensitiveness to the shame of delinquency. On the whole, I think the mental condition of the children has never, since my acquaintance with the "House," been more favorable to reformation than at the present time.

The Sabbath School continues to be a source of interest, and doubtless of great profit. The children are occupied here as usual, in studying and committing to memory portions of the scriptures. The distribution of tracts and small rewards among them by gentlemen from the city, tends very considerably to increase their interest in these exercises, and will no doubt prove to them a lasting benefit.

No compulsion is used in teaching the scriptures, yet I am happy to be able to say, that instances are very rare in which boys who can read, fail to commit to memory as many as four or five verses monthly. Those who cannot read, are taught by monitors, so that probably no boy leaves the House without carrying in his *mind*, as well as under his arm, a portion of the word of God.

The library, since your very liberal appropriation of \$100, contains six hundred volumes, and much valuable and interesting reading matter. A set time is devoted every week exclusively to miscellaneous reading. The interest manifested in this exercise, leads us to anticipate the most happy effects.

For my own gratification, I have made a point of ascertaining, as nearly as possible, the former character and circumstances of children entering the House; and although it is well understood that children sent here are generally delinquents, yet I take the liberty to subjoin a few particulars in regard to those who have entered during the past year. I have found but

34 who have been accustomed to attend school regularly,  
 97 have attended *irregularly*, many only a few weeks altogether,  
 35 say they never attended school in their life.

43 have never attended Sabbath School,  
 82 profess to have attended irregularly, while only  
 41 pretend to say they have been *regular* attendants.



- 24 were able to repeat to me a verse of scripture,  
75 had received some little instruction, but had never learned  
a verse,  
67 appeared entirely ignorant of the nature, design and contents of the bible.

Indeed, I had not expected to find, in the nineteenth century, and in the city of New-York, so many children so entirely ignorant of the fundamental doctrines of the christian religion. It is in view of *this* fact, that I have often been led to express a sense of my own insufficiency for a proper discharge of these interesting and important duties, and you may be assured it is with no small degree of pleasure, that I witness numerous instances of the success of your most excellent enterprise.

Respectfully submitted.

T. C. McKENNEE,  
*Teacher of Male Department.*

*New-York, Jan. 8, 1845,*



The Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents in account current with Cornelius Dubois, Treasurer.

Cr.

1841	Jan. 11, To Balance due the Treasurer,	\$1,109 55	By Cash received for the Labor of the children in the different workshops, viz:	1841	Jan. 11,	7,030 84
1841	to	1,924 95	"	1845	to	8,000 00
1841	Jan. 8, Furniture, Beds, Bedding, &c.	6,371 33	"	1845	Jan. 8	3,194 00
1841	Coal, Wood, Oil, Stoves, &c.	1,007 42	"	1845	Jan. 8	4,000 00
1841	School Expenses, Books, Stationery, &c.	845 97	"	1845	Jan. 8	796 34
1841	Hospital Expenses, Medicines, &c.	236 14	"	1845	Jan. 8	
1841	Salaries of Superintendent, Assistants, School-master, Maroon and Assistants, Physician, Chaplain, &c.	115 69	"	1845	Jan. 8	
1841	Premium of Insurance against Fire,	3,923 41	"	1845	Jan. 8	
1841	Printing Annual Report, Rules and Regulations, Account and Blank Books, Paper, Postages, and additions to the boys' and girls' libraries,	108 55	"	1845	Jan. 8	
1841	Horse, Cow, and Stable Expenses,	214 63	"	1845	Jan. 8	
1841	Returning children to parents, passages and outfits,	770 18	"	1845	Jan. 8	
1841	Three new workshops, and enlarging others,	61 50	"	1845	Jan. 8	
1841	Gate-keeper's house, brick wall, &c.	3,680 20	"	1845	Jan. 8	
1841	New privy and sewer regulating and flagging in girls' yard, hy-drant, shrubbery, &c.	352 32	"	1845	Jan. 8	
1841	Painting and repairs to female house, steam boiler, bathing and washing fixtures, &c.	819 47	"	1845	Jan. 8	
1841	Ventilating boys' dormitories by tin pipes, new locks, plates, &c.	615 99	"	1845	Jan. 8	
1841	Book cases, school furniture, tables, drying frames &c. in boys' house,	246 7.	"	1845	Jan. 8	
1841	Fountain in boys' yard, flagging, piggery, shrubbery, &c.	624 54	"	1845	Jan. 8	
1841		515 77	"	1845	Jan. 8	
1841		\$23,594 33	"	1845	Jan. 8	\$23,594 33
1841		\$796 34	"	1845	Jan. 8	

## STATISTICS FOR 1844.

The whole number of children received into the House of Refuge since its establishment in 1825, is 3,536.

The number of children in the Institution on the 1st of January, 1844, was as follows, viz:—

White Boys,.....	214
White Girls,.....	62
Colored Boys,.....	36
Colored Girls,.....	9
	— 321

Received during the year 1844:

White Boys,.....	160
White Girls,.....	54
Colored Boys,.....	41
Colored Girls,.....	7
	— 262
Total during the year,.....	— 583

Of these we have disposed of 276, viz:—

White Boys,.....	165
White Girls,.....	67
Colored Boys,.....	38
Colored Girls,.....	6
	— 276

Leaving on the 1st of January, 1844,

White Boys,.....	209
White Girls,.....	49
Colored Boys,.....	39
Colored Girls,.....	10
	— 307
Total.....	— 583

A TABLE SHOWING THE SOURCES FROM WHICH WE RECEIVED 262  
CHILDREN DURING THE YEAR 1844, viz:—

	White Boys.	White Girls.	Col'd Boys.	Col'd Girls.	Total.
From the New-York Police Office,....	68	31	11	4	114
“ “ “ Sessions,.....	34	4	15	2	55
“ “ “ Commissioners of Alms House,.....	12	5	1	0	18
“ Albany Sessions,.....	4	2	1	0	7
“ Monroe County,.....	5	0	0	1	6
“ Erie “ .....	1	0	2	0	3
“ Tompkins “ .....	2	0	0	0	2
“ Greene “ .....	1	0	0	0	1
“ Rensselaer “ .....	0	0	1	0	1
“ Ontario “ .....	1	0	0	0	1
“ Schoharie “ .....	1	0	0	0	1
“ Oneida “ .....	1	0	0	0	1
“ Cayuga “ .....	1	0	0	0	1
“ Jefferson “ .....	1	0	0	0	1
“ Montg'ery “ .....	0	0	1	0	1
“ Clinton “ .....	1	0	0	0	1
“ Genesee “ .....	1	0	0	0	1
“ Fulton “ .....	1	0	0	0	1
	135	42	32	7	216
Returned, after having been given up to friends or indentured,.....	25	12	9	0	46
	160	54	41	7	262

*Parentage of 177 White Children received during the year 1844.*

Irish.....	88
American.....	47
English.....	22
German.....	14
Scotch.....	5
French.....	1

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177

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Americans, 47 ; Foreigners, 130.

A TABLE SHOWING THE DISPOSITION MADE OF 276 CHILDREN DURING THE YEAR 1844.

	White Boys.	White Girls.	Col'd Boys.	Col'd Girls.	Total.
Indentured to Farmers,.....	86	0	30	0	116
“ Hatters,.....	4	0	0	0	4
“ Boot and Shoe Makers,..	14	0	0	0	14
“ Whaling service,.,.,.,.	6	0	3	0	9
“ Ship and Boat Building,	3	0	0	0	3
“ Sea service,.....	3	0	0	0	3
“ Milkmen,.....	3	0	0	0	3
“ Gardeners.....	2	0	0	0	2
“ Tanners and Curriers,..	2	0	0	0	2
“ Cabinet Makers,.....	2	0	0	0	2
“ Carpenters,.....	2	0	0	0	2
“ One, to each of the fol- ing, viz :—Spar Maker, Twine Spinner, Sail Maker, Yarn Spinner, Weaver, Tailor, Plough Maker, Mason, Printer, Blacksmith, Tin and Sheet Iron Worker, General Service, Brass and Sivler Plater, Chair Painter, Wheelwright, Butcher, Cooper, and Bookbinder,.....	19	0	0	0	19
“ To Housewifery,.....	0	62	0	6	68
Discharged, given up to friends, or sent to the Alms House,.....	16	5	3	0	24
Escaped,.....	1	0	0	0	1
Deceased,.....	2	0	2	0	4
	166	67	38	6	276

*Ages of 216 Children who were received during the year 1844.*

7 were 8 years old,	59 Brought forward.
2 “ 9 “	19 were 13 years old,
7 “ 10 “	41 “ 14 “
13 “ 11 “	35 “ 15 “
30 “ 12 “	40 “ 16 “
—	22 “ 17 “
59 Carried forward.	—
	216

Average age 13 years 11 months.

## EMPLOYMENT OF THE BOYS.

During the year of which we now report, the boys have been employed at getting out from the rough plank, chair seat frames, and then filling them with cane, prepared on the premises by the children. They have also been engaged at manufacturing razor-strops, pocket-books, and paper cases of various patterns.

The making and mending of the shoes worn by the children is done by them on the premises.

The washing, making and mending for the whole family is done by the children.

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WORK DONE AT THE FEMALE HOUSE DURING  
THE YEAR 1844.

Frocks	made...	164	Curtains	made...	15
Aprons	.....do....	212	Door Mats	.....do....	3
Other articles of			Chair Cushion	...do....	1
girl's clothing	-do....	134	Table Cloths	.....do....	3
Jackets	.....do....	517	Shop Aprons	....do....	80
Pantaloons	....do....	628	Boys' Aprons	....do....	25
Shirts	.....do....	505	Handkerchiefs Hemmed		44
Sheets	.....do....	87	Letters Marked	.....	2176
Quilt large	....do....	1	Stocking Heels Lined	..600 pr.	
Comfortables	....do....	43	Stocking strings	.....120 pr.	
Pillow Cases	...do....	68	Suspenders	.....300 pr.	
Bed Ticks	....do....	12	Holders	.....174	
Shoes Bound	.....do....	68 pr.	Garments repaired	...30,839	
Shirts	.....do....	113	Stockings mended	....5,133	
Rollers	.....do....	8	Carpet Balls	.....170 lbs.	
Boy's Badges	..do....	66			



## EXTRACTS FROM THE DAILY JOURNAL OF 1844.

*April 18th.*

We acknowledge this day the very handsome donation of one hundred copies of the Sunday School Hymn Book, from the Am. Sunday School Union, whose liberality for many years past has been manifested in a similar way.

*April 19th.*

We have this day received one hundred copies of the Bible from the New-York Bible Society—and through this liberality, as for years past, are enabled to furnish each child in the House, who can read as well as each one on leaving the Institution, a copy of the “Sacred Word.”

*May 1st.*

The Master of G. M., one of our boys, called on us to-day, and stated that the lad had served his whole time faithfully, and had been an excellent apprentice. He has secured him a situation in a Chair Manufactory, at \$12 pr. month, and now desires to take another boy. We think the above a good recommendation.

*May 9th.*

E. R. and E. K. (girls) were this day received from the A. County Court of Special Sessions.

D. M. and J. R. (boys) were this day received from the N. Y. Special Sessions.

J. N. was received from the N. Y. Police.

*May 10th.*

J. McN., one of our boys, called to see us this day. He is still at his trade, (printing,) and doing well. A lad of fine appearance and genteel manners—we trust he'll prove a credit to himself and to the Institution.

*May 13th.*

C. C., a boy, was this day received from the O. County Court of Oyer and Terminer, aged twenty years. We have very little hope of benefiting persons of this age.

*May 30th.*

After supper, last night, we gave our boys a thorough bathing in the large Pool, which is sufficiently large to receive from 30 to 40 at once. We had all sorts of swimming and diving, and hardly knew which enjoyed the sport most, they, or ourselves in witnessing it. But aside from the sport, nothing, in our estimation, can be more conducive to health, than the frequent use of the cold bath, and we shall not fail to have it attended to, at least twice each week.

*June 5th.*

We were visited this day by our Board of Managers, and the Ladies' Committee, who hold their Monthly Meetings on the premises, and inspected every department.

*June 6th.*

We were this day visited by the Board of Commissioners of the Alms House, with a large number of the members of the City Com. Council. They passed through every part of the premises, and appeared highly gratified with what they saw.

*June 26th.*

We this day secured a place of service in a good family and at fair wages, for J. P. W., one of our girls, who served her time out faithfully, and has been staying a few days with us in order to secure a situation.

*July 1st.*

This was the Quarterly Visiting Day for the relatives and friends of the children, and the weather proving fair, an unusually large number were present.

*July 4th.*

This, as a matter of course, was a holiday with our children, and right heartily did they seem to enjoy it. The usual appropriation of the Committee on such occasions, procured them the fruits of the season in abundance.

*July 5th.*

C. S., one of the early inmates of the Institution, called on us to-day in company with his wife. He is now a respectable mechanic in this city, a member of a Christian church, and says he owes it all to the instrumentality of the House of Refuge.

*July 28th.*

C. Q., one of our girls who left us three years ago, and who has served her time out faithfully, called to see us to-day. Her dress and appearance show that she has been kindly dealt by, and we trust she will make a worthy woman. We sent our carriage to take her to her friends.

*Aug. 1st.*

E. R., one of our girls, who is now 22 years of age, has been stopping with us a few days to secure our assistance in getting her a suitable situation. We are happy now in being able to meet her wishes, with a good family in the country, at fair wages.

*Aug. 19th.*

We are indebted to the liberality of our Board of Managers for the reception this day of 181 vols. miscellaneous works, as an addition to the library of the Institution.

It is with sentiments of deep regret we notice the death of one of our Board of Managers, Col. WM. L. STONE. It is but a few weeks since he visited the Institution with his family.

*Aug. 20th.*

M. H., one of our boys, who was indentured a few months since, was this day received, on his own application—says his master did not treat him well, and he preferred the Refuge.

*Aug. 21st.*

We were this day visited by his Honor, MAYOR HARPER, in company with several distinguished gentlemen from abroad, who passed through every department of our premises, and expressed much gratification.

*Aug. 22d.*

G. R., who left here 12 years ago, and who is now about 30 years of age, called to see his "old home" to-day. He married respectably six years ago, and is getting on comfortably. His language is, "I owe much to the House of Refuge." Happily the debt is amply repaid in his good conduct.

*Aug. 23d.*

P. H. was this day returned to his parents, who to save their child from the snares and temptations of the city, will immediately remove to the country.

*Aug. 28th.*

We have this day made out Indentures for eight children.

*Sept. 10th.*

P. W. R. was this day indentured to R. J. F. of ——— This is the third boy Mr. F. now has from this House. One is out of his time, and has been receiving wages for 18 months; the second has been with him three years, and is an excellent apprentice. We wish him as good success with the one he takes to-day.

*Sept. 14th.*

P. G. who was indentured to a farmer in the western part of the state eleven years since, and who served his time so satisfactorily to his master, that he gave him \$75 at the expiration of his term, called on us this day. He is a very intelligent and promising young man. He will return to the west in a few days, where he intends to enter an academy for the purpose of preparing himself for a surveyor. In which enterprise he has the proffered assistance of his former master. Surely this House has done much for P. G. He literally lived in the street for several months, and although young, had already commenced a dishonest course of life.

*Oct. 2d.*

S. D. A., who left the Institution ten years ago, called on us this day. He served his time faithfully, got a thorough knowledge of his trade, which he is now pursuing on his own account on a pretty large scale, employing several hands, is respectably married and has two children. He is so much respected by his neighbors that they voluntarily gave the place in which he resides, his name, with ville to the end of it. His object in calling was to get a girl, and having an order for one from our Indenturing Committee, it was promptly supplied with the best we had.

*Oct. 10th.*

Mrs. Capt. B. of P—— called this day to apply for a girl. She has had four from this place; all of whom have done well. The first remained in her family thirteen years, five years on wages, and is now respectably married. The last has been two years with her and is a very good girl. We regret that we have none to part with at present.

*Oct. 14th.*

W. McC, who was indentured to a bricklayer in N. J. about 10



years ago, attended Divine service with us yesterday. He served his time to the entire satisfaction of his master, and is now engaged on his own account on one of the large row of buildings in process of erection in the neighborhood of the Refuge—a worthy and respectable young man. He says “this Institution saved him.”

*Oct. 15th.*

C. M. K., one of our girls, whose term of service expired in August last, visited her old home to-day. She is now living with her mother in Avenue —, a modest and promising young woman—says she had not a very desirable place, but thought it better to endure small difficulties than leave her situation.

*Oct. 21st.*

R. B. who has been absent seven years, came to see his caretakers this day. He faithfully served the term of his apprenticeship, and is now a sober, honest and respectable looking young man.

*Oct. 25th.*

We are again indebted to the liberality of the Am. Sunday School Union, for a donation of 100 copies of the Sunday School Hymn Book.

*Nov. 10th.*

E. S. who left us three years ago, returns to us this day from the western part of the state, where she served her time faithfully. She remained one year with her master on wages. She has a good stock of clothing, and brings testimonials of having been a very good girl, and being so, we shall have no difficulty in securing her a good situation, she having no friends on whom she can depend.

*Nov. 28th.*

W. H. W. who 8 years ago was indentured to J. B., a farmer in N. J., called to see us this day in company with his master. He was well dressed, intelligent, and manly in his bearing—and Mr. B. seemed as proud of him as if he had been his own son. He takes his master to tarry the night with his mother, in the city—returns with him to-morrow, and will take his farm on shares in the spring. We wish him much success.

*Dec. 2d.*

We have just stored our winter's supply, 100 bbls. superfine flour.

S. M. D., a colored girl, who served her time faithfully, called to-day in company with her master, who still feels much interest for her, and does not wish to leave the city without securing her a good place. We trust he will succeed.

*Dec. 9th.*

It is with indescribable feelings of regret, we record the sudden and melancholy death of JOHN R. WILLIS Esq., the Chairman of our Indenturing Committee. In this mysterious providence, our Institution has been deprived of one of its most faithful and devoted members.

*Dec. 31st.*

This day finds us with a family of 307 children, and not a case of sickness in the House—with food and raiment for all. How much cause of sincere gratitude to God!

## LETTERS

FROM MASTERS WHOSE APPRENTICES ARE STILL  
WITH THEM.

BOYS.

*August 25th, 1844.*

Gentlemen, Managers of the House of Refuge,

Your circular of the 26th ult., was duly received, and in answer I will say, J. C. J. is still with me. He is industrious, honest, and improved in education. He attends Sabbath School and I think is ambitious of gaining and *retaining* the good opinion of community. I will further say that J. has gained the good will of myself and family, and also, all with whom he has had intercourse. He bids fair to make a useful member of society. J. says, "please tell father that I am suited with my place, that I shall stay till I am 21 and shall try to be a respectable man. He also sends his best love to all the family.

Yours, &c.,  
B. A. B.

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*December 17th, 1844.*

MR. S. S. WOOD,

F. P. B. enjoys very good health and is well pleased with his situation. I have never caught him in doing any thing that was dishonest. He is daily attending at the P—— academy, and is improving in education. He has attended Sunday School the whole season, but we have no S. S. in the winter. He is quite a useful boy and respected throughout the neighborhood. I think sir, there will be no difficulty about his staying with me, as he is well pleased with his situation and the neighborhood in which he lives.

Yours respectfully,  
A. P. R.

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MR. WOOD,

DEAR SIR;

W. D. still remains with me; he is honest, industrious and improved in education. His health has been rather delicate, but he is now quite stout, and I shall send him more regularly to school. He

loves to attend religious meetings; and I think he bids fair to grow up a useful and respectable man.

He desires me to send his respects to the boys in the Refuge; and to say to the Superintendent and Managers, that he has left off the bad tricks which he had when he was in New York,

Yours respectfully,  
B. D.

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MR. WOOD,

To yours of the 20th making enquiries respecting C. B., I reply: he is still with me; and is perfectly honest and industrious; and making fair improvement in education. He attends Sabbath School and divine service once or twice every Sabbath; and appears very ambitious of future respectability and usefulness. I have been under the necessity of correcting him but once since he has been with me, and am very much pleased with his whole deportment and conduct.

Yours with respect,  
J. D. F.

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MR. S. S. WOOD,

DEAR SIR;

I am happy to inform you that the boy J. B. is still with me, and a very good boy. He has attended Sabbath School this summer and has improved very much in education. He has now commenced going to Day School, and is very anxious to go, and learns fast. He is honest and industrious; and tries to make himself useful. He says he likes his place very much, and I have no reason to regret that I came to New York for a boy.

Yours &c.,  
A. J. Q.

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MR. S. S. WOOD,

William C. is still with me, and his conduct and deportment, has thus far been good. I think him perfectly honest and industrious. I have not heard him speak an improper word since he has been with me. He is fond of reading, and generally spends his leisure time in that way. He regularly attends church on the Sabbath, and is certainly, a first rate boy. He seems determined to make himself useful and respectable.

Yours truly,  
C. G. B.

The above boy was sent to us from the State Prison, by order of the governor.



*December 10th, 1844.*

MR. WOOD,

I this day received a letter from you making enquiries respecting J. Mc D. In June 1843 while myself and wife were at church J. ran away from us. I ascertained that he had directed his way towards New York. I immediately went in pursuit of him, and overtook him near Jersey City. Upon my threatening to return him to the House of Refuge, he began to cry and promised to return with me and behave himself well if I would only take him back with me. I did so, and J. has ever since done as well as I could wish. He is very kind and obedient. He often expresses his regret for having run away. He is making improvement in his education, he attends Sabbath School when one is kept in the place. He manifests a strong desire to sustain a respectable character, and I feel confident he will succeed.

Yours respectfully,  
D. P.

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*December 21st, 1844.*

MR. WOOD,

DEAR SIR;

I received your letter of December 10th, and in reply can say that M. C is still with me. I have seen nothing about him but what is honest. He has attended Sabbath School for some time past, but there is none near us at present. He says he is satisfied with his place, and does not wish to leave it. He is in fact as good, careful and smart a boy as I could wish.

Yours truly,  
O. P. B.

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*K——, November 20th, 1844.*

MR. S. S. WOOD,

DEAR SIR;

In compliance with the request expressed in the letter accompanying G D. bound to me, I send this letter to inform you, that he is in good health, has conducted himself with propriety since he has been with me, is contented and gives promise of becoming every thing, that your letter seems to desire. He has not yet learned to write—when able, he will be instructed to send you a letter. We will endeavor to do him justice.

Respectfully yours,  
J. V.

*December 14th, 1844.*

MR. S. S. WOOD,

SIR,

Your circular is this day received. E. D. is still with me. He is honest. The only improvement he has made in his education, is, what he has made in Sunday School. I intend to send him to the District School next week. He appears to be willing to do whatever we require of him, is rather self-willed, and wishes to do things his own way. We hope however to break this habit; we have never punished him since he has been with us.

I am Sir, respectfully Yours, &c,  
S. F. D.

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## GIRLS.

*July 14th 1844.*

MR. S. S. WOOD,

SIR;

As you are desirous of obtaining information from C. M. J. I take pleasure in stating that she is enjoying good health, and is a hearty, robust girl. She is still with me, is honest, industrious and improved in education. She does not attend Sabbath School, as it is some distance from us, and commences at so early an hour in the morning that she is not able to get there in seasonable time. She however attends church with our family, and continues to repeat to us several hundred verses of the Scriptures. She can commit to memory in a day, more verses than any other child I ever saw. She is ambitious of future respectability and usefulness, and is a well behaved, creditable girl. She is well satisfied to live with us and has no desire to leave. She wishes to be remembered to all in the Institution and sends her love to all the girls.

Yours with respect,  
J. W. K.

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*September 24th, 1844.*

MR. DAVID TERRY,

SIR;

At my request, the bearer, E. D. has engaged to call upon you. My object in taking this liberty is, that she may get such advice and assistance, as she needs in her present situation. For your acquaintance with her and myself, I would refer you to your record of Indentures of 1842. Since she has been in my employ, she has endeared herself much to my family. We have found her uniformly faithful, honest and industrious; and should have been pleased to have kept her longer, if she had been perfectly contented

to stay. I have much anxiety for her future welfare; and believing you also would feel such interest—is my apology for this intrusion.

With much respect, Yours,

B. B. B.

This girl, when her time expired, returned to the House with the above, to obtain assistance in finding her friends.

*December 26th, 1844.*

MR. WOOD,

DEAR SIR:

Yours of the 20th has been received, and would have been answered before, but for the fact that it got mislaid, and consequently escaped attention till the present time.

It gives us pleasure to be able to answer your questions in a very satisfactory manner. M—— is still with us. She has had the management of business about the house, and we have discovered nothing in her conduct but what is honest and upright in every particular. We are happy to inform you that she has become a very good scholar. She spends most of her leisure time in reading, and what gives us more satisfaction is, that it is *voluntary*. She attends Sabbath School when she can be spared from home. Nothing has yet transpired to cause any fear in our minds in regard to her future course. She has been long enough with us to enable us to judge of her disposition, and we can say with truth, that she is desirous of becoming respectable and useful.

Your obedient Servant,  
B. B.

*December 21st, 1844.*

MR. SAMUEL S. WOOD,

DEAR SIR:

I received your letter of December 12th, making some enquiry in reference to M. M. To your first question we answer; she still lives with us. She appears to be honest, is industrious and has improved in education. She has been at school something more than one quarter, the past year. She regularly attends Sabbath School, and seems somewhat ambitious of future respectability and usefulness; but time will more fully develop her character in this respect. She is kind and obliging in her disposition, and is pleased when she performs her duties to the satisfaction of her mistress. On the whole, we think M. a good girl. Hoping your most excellent Institution may continue to meet with the success it deserves,

I remain, Yours respectfully,  
W. C. R.



*December 23d, 1844.*

MR. WOOD,

DEAR SIR ;

I received yours of the 18th inquiring for M. A. P. the girl indentured to me from your Institution. She remains with me ; and I am glad to say I have every reason to believe her to be honest. She regularly attends Sabbath School, and appears quite ambitious of future respectability and usefulness. Her education is much improved. We are altogether pleased with her ; and think she bids fair to make a good woman. She appears cheerful, and perfectly contented with us. Her sight, which was bad when we received her, has very much improved by a steady application of vinegar and water.

Yours with respect,  
W. M.

*December 21st, 1844.*

FRIENDS,

M. F. D. is still living with me, and is a very good girl. She is honest, industrious and improved in education. She has attended Sabbath School ever since she has been with me ; and is ambitious of future respectability and usefulness. She says she intends to stay her time out, and as much longer as I wish to have her. I hope by God's grace, to make a good girl of her, if my life is spared. She feels satisfied that she has got a good home, and expresses a wish that all the girls may do as well as she has done.

Mrs. H. to Mr. Wood,  
Superintendent.

*December 12th, 1844.*

DEAR SIR,

Your letter desiring information concerning S. R. was received yesterday, and in reply to your questions, I answer : S. remains with us, and requests me to say that she is happy and contented. Mrs. K. is satisfied with her deportment ; thus far, she has proved herself honest and industrious. As yet, she has had little opportunity for improving her education, but I shall send her to school this winter. She also attends Sabbath School and divine service, and seems pleased with the opportunity to do so. She manifests as much interest as could be expected of one of her age, in all that relates to the proprieties of life.

In short, S. has fulfilled to the utmost of our expectations, all that we hoped for and if she continues in well doing, we shall exert ourselves in her behalf. I frequently notice her reading her Bible and other books given to her by her friends in the House of Refuge.

Yours Respectfully,  
S. T. K.



MR. WOOD,

December 16th, 1844.

DR. SIR;

Your communication from the House of Refuge has been received, and it gives me pleasure to answer the questions propounded in relation to E. C., in the most favorable manner.

I have no hesitation (judging from her conduct since she came to live in my family,) in saying as my opinion that E. will become a respectable member of community.

With much respect I am Sir,  
Your obedient Servant,  
H. F. J.

## LETTERS

## FROM CHILDREN STILL IN THEIR APPRENTICESHIP.

## BOYS.

The following rather singular piece of composition, is from a colored boy, indentured from the House during the past summer. It is given very nearly in his own words.

MR. DE VOE,

Dear friend, I take this opportunity to write to you, and I hope to find you well. I suppose you would like to know how I *am*; and whether I *am* at my place. I *am* very well, and I *am very well satisfied*. I have no complaints to make whatever. I am very glad of the instruction that I received from the Refuge. I can plough and harrow; and I expect to mow next summer. It is getting cold now, and we are about to go to the *woods* for fire wood; we shall be steady at it all winter, but when there are any spare days I shall have time to play. We have a fine pond, and my Boss's son John and I, will be skating whenever we have time.

I have told you that I was very well satisfied with my place, but I have not told you yet, how they like me. But I will tell you. I believe he likes me very well, and we have had no difficulty as yet. I wish to know whether any boy can come to see you before he is of age; and if I can, I wish you would let me know before "New Years." I hope you will see me up there, both me and my "Boss." He says he would be very happy to see you.

I suppose you know where I am; any way I will tell you now. The nearest way for you to come here, would be to go to Fort Lee Ferry. After you get to Fort Lee, you will take the H—— stage and come up the cross road to I. W——'s; and there you will get out of the stage and turn to your right hand, and come up: and as you come up, enquire for D. R. D——'s and they will tell you where he lives.

My love to Mr. De Voe. Give my love to Mr. Wood and also to Mr. Mc Kenne.

Farewell Sir,  
F. F.

The following line is from a lad about 14 years of age ; probably his first attempt.

MR. WOOD,

DEAR SIR ;

I take my pen to let you know that I am well pleased with my place. Please give my respects to the boys.

Yours with respect,  
D. M. L.

*May 26th, 1844.*

MR. DE. VOE,

DEAR SIR ;

It is my privilege to write to you for the first time, and it is with a grateful heart that I embrace the opportunity. I should not have thought of it sir, had not your kindness been great to me, while I was in the House of Refuge. I shall not forget you sir, while the thought of the House of Refuge is in my mind. Please give my respects to Mr. Roylance. I shall not forget his kindness to me while I was in his shop. The man to whom I was bound is a good master. He has bought me a new suit of clothes, and we go to meeting and Sunday School every Sunday. I like my place very well ; and I wish all the boys would stop at their places when they are bound out. There are several boys from the Refuge living in this township. Sir, I feel happy. My master tells me if I am a good boy, he will give me a year of my time. I wish you would write and let me know if he can do so. He thinks I am older than my indentures state ; but, as I do not know my age, I am willing to stay if he requires it.

Dear sir, I have sent you these few lines, they are not written very well, but I hope you will excuse them. My master has furnished me with paper to write whenever I choose. I hope you will write to me as soon as you may think proper, and please let me know the state of Mr. R——'s health. I hope you may prosper wherever you go. With a grateful heart I remain

Your most obliged humble Servant,  
J. C.

*August 25th, 1844.*

MR. WOOD,

DEAR SIR ;

I now take an opportunity of writing to you as you requested me. I am in very good health, and live very comfortably. The gentleman with whom I live is very kind to me and I dont think I shall ever leave him. He does not make me work hard ; it is a very pleasant place, and I have not been sick since I left you. I

have not much to say at present ; but the next time I write I hope to have a great deal. I hope you will write to me soon ; give my love to all.

Yours respectfully,  
E. H. C.

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Sept. 1844.

MR. S. S. WOOD,  
DEAR SIR ;

I take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude for your kind care over me while I was in your Institution. After we left the Refuge, I accompanied my master to his house, where we arrived safely. I have an excellent place, and like all the family. I have so conducted myself since I have been with them, that I have not had even a scolding. I have plenty to eat ; plenty of work, and good clothes to wear. I attend Sabbath School every Sunday. My master wishes to get a girl ; and if he does, she will have a good place. No more at present.

I remain, Your Ob't Servant,  
J. D.

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February 4th, 1844.

MR. TERRY,

J. S. likes his place very well. Likes his master and mistress and believes they like him. I always try to do as they tell me as near as I can. I have enough to eat and drink, good clothing and a good bed to sleep in. I have learned to plough and rake, and bind wheat ; and to pick potatoes and sort them out. In the Fall I went down in the woods and set some snares and box traps. I caught about twenty rabbits, and had a chance to pick a few nuts. This winter I cart marl with the mules, and I like it, very much. Mr. Terry, I wish you would let my parents know how I am getting along. I am very well, and I hope they are well. They need not worry about me,

Yours respectfully,  
J. S.

The Master of this *colored boy*, writes, as follows :—

DAVID TERRY, SIR ;

Yours has been received, enquiring for J. Wanted him to write. He said he could not, but would sign his name if I would write for him. I told him that would not do, so he got my brother to write for him. You can see what he says. He told just what to write, and signed his name to it. John is a very good boy. His only fault is lying, which he will do sometimes. He has got to be very useful. He has been well since he has been with me, and is in good health now. I was in your city about a month ago. When I left home I asked John if he wanted to go along and see you. He said he



would like to see you very much, but was afraid Mr. Terry would say, "J. S., you had better stay with me, and I will send some other boy in the country with Mr. H." He said no; he would stay and be a good boy. He has taken great delight in catching rabbits as he has told you; and also in driving the team. He is very proud to think he can drive to church on Sabbath, if it so happens that I cannot go. Mrs. H. was afraid to ride with him until lately.

Yours truly,  
R. S. H.

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The following is from a colored boy who has served out the term of his apprenticeship.

*May 14th, 1844.*

MR. DAVID TERRY,

I embrace this opportunity to write a few lines to you, and I hope they may find you and my comrades enjoying good health. You remember I left the Refuge on the 15th of March, 1837, to live with Mr. S. I liked him very well and staid my time out with him. It was out last spring, on the 15th of March.

By the blessing of the Almighty, I have had no sickness since I left the Refuge. I should like to have written sooner, but I thought I could not write good enough. I now write however to the best of my knowledge. I joined the Methodist church near two years since. I have also signed the Temperance pledge, and am now a Secretary of a Temperance Society. I have tried to live a religious life ever since I left the Refuge, and I do thank the gentlemen of that Institution for giving me such religious and moral instructions while I was in their care; and I do acknowledge and confess, that *that* Institution has been the making of me.

During the time of my service, we had sudden changes in the family. Mr. M. S. my master, departed this life the 18th of December, 1843.

I am without father or mother, brother or sister, or any other relation that I know of at present. When I entered the House of Refuge, I had two uncles, two aunts, and one sister. My sister's name was Maria R. and one of my uncles' J. L. He was a tailor by trade, and lived in Sullivan street. If you should know any such names, I beg you will just acquaint them with me. I should like to see them again; it is now near ten years since I left them; but if I should never see them or you more in this world, I trust I shall see you in the kingdom above, where parting will be no more. God is said to be a Father to the fatherless; and I know if I put my trust in Him, He will bring me through dangers seen and unseen, therefore I feel it my duty to love and serve God more.

I recollect the two "Rules of the House." The first is, "I must never tell a lie," and the second, "I must always do as well as I know how." I have taken these for my guide ever since I was in Refuge, and I can tell you to-day, that I am on my way to Heaven.



It is now seven years since I left you, and I have not been whipped in all that time. I am still living at Mr. S's but times are very dull now with farmers; they can't get much for their grain; and for this reason they can't give much wages. I ask you as a friend if you know of any service place in the city, that I could get, such as driving carriage or taking care of horses, or to work in a store.

I feel very thankful that I was put in the Refuge, and I feel sorry for but one thing, that is, that I am separated from my parents. I feel sometimes about ready to give up. None but those who have felt them, know the feelings of a person who has no friend.

I wish you would make me a present of two books, such as the "History of the House of Refuge," and "Hymn Book;" that I may have them to remember the Refuge by. I have got my Bible yet, I used to read it the long winter evenings. I have done so every opportunity I had until lately. I have joined a singing school, and now, in the evening I sometimes study notes. I hope you will write to me; I should like to know what part of the city the House of Refuge is in, for I intend to come and see you as soon as I can.

Respectfully Yours,  
P. C. R.

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## GIRLS.

*August 27th, 1844.*

DEAR MISS MEYER,

I take this opportunity to inform you that I am well, and I hope that you are the same. You told me to send you word how I liked the country and family. I am very well pleased. I attend Sabbath School very regular, and church frequently. I often attend prayer meetings in the school house close by home. The family reads in the Bible, and we read verses around. I am learning fast to do all kinds of country work, such as milking the cows, churning, and making butter and bread. We have a large farm, and plenty of fruit. The lady with whom I live has enjoyed very poor health all summer. We have ten in family; three sons and two daughters; one a widow with two dear children, one seven and the other four years old. I had a pleasant ride with my mistress, on the fourth of July. Give my love to all the girls, and to Mr. and Mrs. Terry and dear Susan and the other children. Respects to Mr. McKenne. Mr. Terry, have you heard any thing from Mother? If you have, please to write and let me know.

With great respect,  
M. E. P.

TO MISS MEYER,

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*September 15th, 1844.*

MR. S. S. WOOD,

It is with pleasure I take up my pen to inform you and Miss Wood, that I am perfectly satisfied with my present situation, and I

hope I shall *never* have cause to complain. I feel myself more at home here, than I have ever before, since I left my mother's house. I hope the advice you gave me when I left the House of Refuge will not be lost. I hope the past will have nothing to do with the future; yet I know that the world is full of snares and temptations which it is easy to fall into; but I hope I shall be able to withstand them all. I am in a pleasant family, although it is larger than I had thought. There was a mistake. Miss Wood thought there were but three children. There are five, three girls and two boys. They all go to school but the youngest, who is almost four years of age. I am attending school this fall. Mrs. P. says we have an excellent teacher, and I am in hopes that I shall profit by his instruction, as I am very backward in learning.

It is different in regard to the work from what I had expected. Mrs. P. said it was hard; yet it is not so hard as it was in Newburgh. We are now preparing for winter.

I hope all those under your care will have good places, and behave becomingly in them.

Yours truly,  
M. S. B.

The master of this child subjoins the following;

It is doubtless a pleasure to you, to hear that any one who goes out from your protection continues to behave well. I am happy to inform you that M. S. B. has behaved very well indeed since she has come into my house. I see nothing to cause me to think she will do differently; as she is remarkably good tempered and pleasant with the children. I think she is perfectly happy, as you may judge from her own letter. I hope nothing will happen to alter our feelings, or cause us to regret her coming into our family.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,  
B. P.

The following are from Mr. David Terry Jr, late Superintendent of the Institution.

July 15th, 1844.

Mr. S. S. Wood,  
DEAR SIR;

I was accosted in the street a few days since by a decent looking working man, who made himself known to me as J. P. I soon recognized him as a former inmate of the Refuge, ascertained that his present residence is in this city, and that he is one of a company of respectable *ice dealers*. He has \$1000,00 in the company, which yields him an interest of 10 per cent per annum, and his situation in the company brings him \$480,00 per annum. He is married. I have been at his house; his wife is sensible, industrious and pious, and J. himself is a member of a religious society. They have two

children and live very comfortably. I am glad to have an opportunity for communicating so pleasant a relation of one who formerly enjoyed the cares and labors expended in the House of Refuge.

Yours &c.,

DAVID TERRY, JR.

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*August 30th, 1844.*

MR. S. S. WOOD,

DEAR SIR,

Whilst on my way to the office of the Commissioners of the Alms House to provide for an orphan, on Tuesday the 27th inst., who should accost me in Broadway, but a very respectable woman, in whom I soon recognized E. H. formerly of the House of Refuge; and who was indentured to a gentleman in Rhode Island. I learned that she is now married, and the place of her residence; and as she very pleasantly invited me to call on her—I have since done so, and find her very comfortably situated. Her house was tidy, and she says her husband provides well for her. She has been married four years and has one child. Her account of the family in which she had lived, in Rhode Island, was highly creditable to them and to herself. She mentioned the names of two or three other girls in that state, (in the city of Providence) as being in excellent families, and promising to become excellent women. Such incidents as these you will have from time to time, as they greatly relieve a life of toil and anxiety known to no one but a care-taker in the House of Refuge.

Yours,

DAVID TERRY, JR.

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To the Superintendent of the House of Refuge,

On the evening of Sunday, December, 1844, you might have seen W. S. leading to the altar a highly respectable young lady, to whom he was then and there united in the bonds of matrimony. He had previously commenced business for himself, having for a partner a young man of right character and circumstances. If you turn to the history of S. you will find that his general character was such as to lead you to fear the worst for his course through life; but now, having been for several years a member of a religious society, and enjoyed the confidence of all who knew him, he has come to be not only respectable, but useful and beloved by many of the most worthy citizens in the community where he resides. Had it not been for the instruction he first received in the House of Refuge, and the care subsequently bestowed upon him by its managers, he would not have come to his present happy condition.

Yours,

DAVID TERRY, JR.

*House of Refuge, Feb. 12th. 1845.*

W. J. H., formerly one of our lads, and who about ten years ago, was sent on a whaling voyage, from one of our eastern ports, called to see us this day. He is now 26 years of age, is well dressed, a manly and intelligent fellow ; has been three voyages since he left here, varying from 25 to 44 months. The first voyage he cleared nothing ; the second \$125 00 ; the third time he went out as Boat-Steerer, and cleared, after paying his infit \$430. He will shortly sail again as Mate, and he expects before many years, to command a ship.

His sister, A. M., who was also here at the same time, and who served her term of apprenticeship faithfully, is now married to a respectable farmer, in the neighborhood of the port whence her brother sails, and has a family of three children. And better still, their mother, who was very dissipated at the time they were sent here, is now "clothed and in her right mind," a sober, industrious and respectable person, and resides with her daughter above named. W. says he feels under very great obligations to the Institution for what it has done for himself and family. And well he may.









